

Claims

Claim 1-13. (previously cancelled)

Claim 14. (currently amended) A method for creating a consumer's shopping list prior to entering a store, comprising the steps of:

- (a) using a portable barcode scanner;
- (b) scanning a needed product barcode or a needed product coupon barcode using said portable barcode scanner prior to entering to said store;
- (c) using one or more consumer's first computers comprising the ~~sub-steps~~ steps of;
 - (i) receiving data from, and transmitting data to, said portable barcode scanner over a consumer's first network infrastructure;
 - (ii) storing said data in a memory means on said first computer as ~~current shopping a current shopping list information~~ under control of each said product barcode or each said product coupon barcode, ~~in a memory means~~; and under control of a date and time; wherein said date and time indicative of when each said product barcode or each said product coupon barcode was scanned by said portable barcode scanner;
 - (iii) communicating with a second computer system using said first computer, over a second network infrastructure to request and to receive additional shopping list information based on each said product barcode or each said product coupon barcode;

(iv) ~~tracking frequency that said product barcode has been received from said portable barcode scanner over said first network infrastructure;~~
collecting and storing a multiplicity of said dates and times that each said product barcode has been scanned by said portable barcode scanner and stored in said first computer memory means; wherein said collecting and storing of said multiplicity of dates and times providing a means to learn said consumer's rate of consumption of each said product; wherein said means of learning said consumer's rate of consumption of each said product is a consumption tracking frequency of each said product; said consumption tracking frequency of each said product providing a means to predict when each said product needs to be replaced;

(v) providing a specific notification of previous shopping list information stored in said first computer's memory without needing a current scanned entry of one or more barcodes associated with said previous shopping list information, wherein said specific notification occurring at a date and time when said consumer creates said current shopping list information; list; said notification provided by said means to predict when each said product needs to be replaced;

(vi) adding automatically a list of one or more products stored in said previous shopping list information to said current shopping list ~~information at said tracking frequency commensurate with said means to predict when each said product needs to be replaced~~ at said date and time of creating said current shopping list information; list;

(vii) displaying a multiplicity of said product barcodes or said product coupon barcodes, together with additional shopping list information, on said consumer's first computer display;

(viii) indicating on said first computer display that said consumer has obtained said current shopping list ~~information~~ in-hand from said consumer's first

computer; and

(ix) indicating that said data transmitted to and said data received from said portable barcode scanner has been successfully sent and received;

(d) transferring each said scanned product barcode or each said product coupon barcode to said consumer's first computer, over said first network infrastructure from said portable barcode scanner;

(e) storing each said transferred product barcode or each said product coupon barcode in a shopping list database on said consumer's first computer, said shopping list database includes other product information, wherein said other product information includes: a product description, a product cost, a date and time on which each said product barcode or each said product coupon barcode was scanned by said portable barcode scanner and an indicator for a required quantity of each said product;

(f) obtaining in-hand said stored current shopping list ~~information~~ from said consumer's first computer in order to go to a first store and purchase products listed on said current shopping list ~~information~~; list, said obtaining in-hand is selected from the group comprising:

- (i) printing said stored current shopping list ~~information~~ on a printing device attached to said consumer's first computer,
- (ii) transferring said stored current shopping list ~~information~~ to a consumer's portable computer device, and
- (iii) using said portable barcode ~~scanner~~; scanner.

~~(g) sending said current shopping list information from said consumer's first computer to an optional second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second~~

~~store shipping products listed on said current shopping list information to said consumer, thereby not requiring said consumer to shop in-store for said products; and~~

~~(h) sending said current shopping list information from said consumer's first computer to an optional second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store making said products listed on said current shopping list information available to said consumer for pick up, thereby not requiring said consumer to shop in-store for said products.~~

Claim 15. (currently amended) The portable barcode scanner of claim 14, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wireless link between said portable barcode scanner and said consumer's first computer; computer; wherein said wireless link is selected from the group comprising: an infrared link and a Bluetooth-enabled radio-frequency link.

Claim 16. (currently amended) ~~The portable barcode scanner of claim 15, wherein said wireless link is selected from the group comprising: an infrared link and a Bluetooth-enabled radio-frequency link.~~

The method for creating a consumer's shopping list of claim 14, comprising an optional step of either:

(a) sending said current shopping list from said consumer's first computer to a second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store shipping products listed on said current shopping list to said consumer, thereby not requiring said consumer to shop in-store for said products; or

(b) sending said current shopping list from said consumer's first computer to a second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store making said products listed on said current shopping list available to said consumer for pick up, thereby not requiring said consumer to shop in-store for said products.

Claim 17. (currently amended) The portable barcode scanner of claim 14, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wired link between said portable barcode scanner and said consumer's first ~~computer~~ computer; wherein said wired link is selected from the group comprising: an RS-232 link, a USB link, a parallel link and an IEEE 1394 link.

Claim 18. (canceled)

Claim 19. (previously presented) The first computer of claim 14 is selected from the group comprising: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, an internet appliance, and a cell phone.

Claim 20. (previously presented) The first computer of claim 14, wherein said second network infrastructure is the internet.

Claims 21 – 33 (previously cancelled)

Claim 34. (previously presented) The portable computer device of claim 14 is selected from the group consisting: a personal digital assistant and a cell phone.

Claim 35. (previously presented) The shopping list of claim 14 is selected from the group comprising: beauty aids, books, clothing, computer hardware, computer software, computer supplies, drugs, footwear, groceries, gifts, health aids and music.

Claim 36. (currently amended) A method for creating a consumer's shopping list prior to entering a store, comprising the steps of:

(a) using a portable barcode scanner;

(b) entering manually a needed product barcode or a needed product coupon barcode using said portable barcode scanner prior to entering to said store;

(c) using one or more consumer's first computers comprising the ~~sub-steps~~ steps of;

(i) receiving data from, and transmitting data to, said portable barcode scanner over a consumer's first network infrastructure;

(ii) storing said data in a memory means on said first computer as current a current shopping list information under control of each said product barcode or each said product coupon barcode, in a memory means; and under control of a date and time; wherein said date and time indicative when each said product barcode or each said product coupon barcode was manually entered into said portable barcode scanner;

(iii) communicating with a second computer system using said first computer, over a second network infrastructure to request and to receive additional shopping list information based on each said product barcode or each said product coupon barcode;

(iv) ~~tracking frequency that said product barcode has been received from said portable barcode scanner over said first network infrastructure;~~
collecting and storing a multiplicity of said dates and times that each said product barcode has been manually entered into said portable barcode scanner and stored in said first computer memory means; wherein said collecting and storing of said multiplicity of dates and times providing a means to learn said consumer's rate of consumption of each said product; wherein said means of learning said consumer's rate of consumption of each said product is a consumption tracking frequency of each said product; said consumption tracking frequency of each said product providing a means to predict when each said product needs to be replaced;

(v) providing a specific notification of previous shopping list information stored in said first computer's memory without needing a current manual entry of one or more barcodes associated with said previous shopping list information, wherein said specific notification occurring at a date and time when said consumer creates said current shopping list ~~information~~; list; said notification provided by said means to predict when each said product needs to be replaced;

(vi) adding automatically a list of one or more products stored in said previous shopping list information to said current shopping list ~~information at said tracking frequency~~ commensurate with said means to predict when each said product needs to be replaced at said date and time of creating said current shopping list ~~information~~; list;

(vii) displaying a multiplicity of said product barcodes or said product coupon barcodes, together with additional shopping list information, on said consumer's first computer display;

(viii) indicating on said first computer display that said consumer has obtained said current shopping list ~~information~~ in-hand from said consumer's first computer; and

(ix) indicating that said data transmitted to and said data received from said portable barcode scanner has been successfully sent and received;

(d) transferring each said manually entered product barcode or each said product coupon barcode to said consumer's first computer, over said first network infrastructure from said portable barcode scanner;

(e) storing each said transferred product barcode or each said product coupon barcode in a shopping list database on said consumer's first computer, said shopping list database includes other product information, wherein said other product information includes: a

product description, a product cost, a date and time on which each said product barcode or each said product coupon barcode was ~~scanned~~ manually entered into said portable barcode scanner and an indicator for a required quantity of each said product;

(f) obtaining in-hand said stored current shopping list ~~information~~ from said consumer's first computer in order to go to a first store and purchase products listed on said current shopping list ~~information~~; list, said obtaining in-hand is selected from the group comprising:

(i) printing said stored current shopping list ~~information~~ on a printing device attached to said consumer's first computer,

(ii) transferring said stored current shopping list ~~information~~ to a consumer's portable computer device, and

(iii) using said portable barcode ~~scanner~~; scanner.

~~(g) sending said current shopping list information from said consumer's first computer to an optional second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store shipping products listed on said current shopping list information to said consumer, thereby not requiring said consumer to shop in-store for said products; and~~

~~(h) sending said current shopping list information from said consumer's first computer to an optional second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store making said products listed on said current shopping list information available to said consumer for pick up, thereby not requiring said consumer to shop in-store for said products.~~

Claim 37. (currently amended) The portable barcode scanner of claim 36, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wireless link between said portable barcode scanner and

said consumer's first ~~computer~~; computer; wherein said wireless link is selected from the group comprising: an infrared link and a Bluetooth-enabled radio-frequency link.

Claim 38. (currently amended) ~~The portable barcode scanner of claim 37, wherein said wireless link is selected from the group comprising: an infrared link and a Bluetooth-enabled radio-frequency link.~~

The method for creating a consumer's shopping list of claim 36, comprising an optional step of either:

- (a) sending said current shopping list from said consumer's first computer to a second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store shipping products listed on said current shopping list to said consumer, thereby not requiring said consumer to shop in-store for said products; or
- (b) sending said current shopping list from said consumer's first computer to said second store connected to said second network infrastructure, said second store making said products listed on said current shopping list available to said consumer for pick up, thereby not requiring said consumer to shop in-store for said products.

Claim 39. (currently amended) The portable barcode scanner of claim 36, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wired link between said portable barcode scanner and said consumer's first ~~computer~~; computer; wherein said wired link is selected from the group comprising: an RS-232 link, a USB link, a parallel link and an IEEE 1394 link.

Claim 40. (canceled)

Claim 41. (previously presented) The first computer of claim 36 is selected from the group comprising: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, an internet appliance, and a cell phone.

Claim 42. (previously presented) The first computer of claim 36, wherein said second network infrastructure is the internet.

Claim 43. (previously presented) The portable computer device of claim 36 is selected from the group consisting: a personal digital assistant and a cell phone.

Claim 44. (previously presented) The shopping list of claim 36 is selected from the group comprising: beauty aids, books, clothing, computer hardware, computer software, computer supplies, drugs, footwear, groceries, gifts, health aids and music.

Claim 45. (currently amended) A barcode scanning system for aiding a consumer in creating a new shopping list to which products are automatically added based in part on previously entered shopping lists, said automatically added products not having been considered by said consumer at a date and time of creating said new shopping list, said barcode scanning system comprising:

(a) a portable ~~a portable~~ barcode scanner with a means to scan a product's ~~barcode;~~ barcode prior to entering a store;

(b) one or ~~one or~~ more consumer's first computers connected to said portable barcode scanner over a first network means, wherein said first computer includes a means to store in a memory means one or more barcodes and one or more dates and times that said one or more barcodes were scanned, said barcodes and said dates and times received over said first network means from said barcode scanner in order to create said new shopping list, and wherein said first computer includes a means to store said received barcodes in said memory means comprising barcodes previously received from said barcode scanner;

(c) a computer program in said first computer, wherein said computer program enables collecting and storing of a multiplicity of said dates and times that each said

product barcode has been scanned by said barcode scanner and stored in said first computer memory means, received over said first network means; wherein said collecting and storing of said multiplicity of dates and times providing a means to learn programmatically said consumer's rate of consumption of each said product; wherein said means of programmatically learning said consumer's rate of consumption of each said product is a consumption tracking frequency of each said product; said consumption tracking frequency of each said product providing a means to predict programmatically when each said product needs to be replaced;

(d) wherein said computer program providing a specific notification of previous shopping list information stored in said first computer's memory without needing a current scanned entry of one or more barcodes associated with said previous shopping list information, wherein said specific notification occurring at a date and time when said consumer creates said new shopping list; said notification provided by said means to predict programmatically when each said product needs to be replaced;

(e) wherein said computer program enables automatically adding a list of one or more products stored in said previous shopping list information to said new shopping list commensurate with said means to predict programmatically when each said product needs to be replaced at said date and time of creating said new shopping list;

(f) one or ~~one or~~ more second computers connected to said first computer over a second network means, wherein said second computer includes a means to receive said barcodes from said first computer over said second network means, as well as wherein said second computer includes a means to send product information about said barcodes to said first computer;

(g) a printer ~~a printer means~~ attached to said consumer's first computer, wherein said printer means prints said new shopping list for said consumer; and

(h) a portable ~~a portable~~ computing device with a means to receive said new shopping list from said first computer and a means to store said new shopping list in a memory means.

Claim 46. (currently amended) The portable barcode scanner of claim 45, wherein said first network infrastructure is a wireless link between said portable barcode scanner and said consumer's first ~~computer.~~ computer; wherein said wireless link is selected from the group comprising: an infrared link and a Bluetooth-enabled radio-frequency link.

Claim 47 - 62. (previously cancelled)

Claim 63. (new) The first computer of claim 45 is selected from the group comprising: a personal computer, a personal digital assistant, an internet appliance, and a cell phone.

Claim 64. (new) The first computer of claim 45, wherein said second network infrastructure is the internet